

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Moscow Bomb Factory No. 48

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Bomb Factory No 48 in the Chudlinka section in Moscow was reported by all sources to be 700 to 800 meters south or southwest of the Ierovo railroad station, just west of the arterial road to Ryazan. (1) [] reported that several hundred meters east of the plant was a new gas storage tank and the distributor plant in Moscow-Karacharovo for the natural gas pipe line from Saratov. All [] reported that the plant was formerly an old, very obsolete machine factory. During the war its installations were evacuated to the Ural Mountains. They were returned after the war, and German machines also arrived. Soviet and German machines were stored outdoors and in workshops. According to Soviets, the plant resumed operation in February 1946. Power came from outside of the plant and was directed via the transformer and a distributor station. [] the excavation of ditches which allegedly were planned for gas pipes.

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2. [] reported that a medium-size building in the northwestern part of the plant housed a secret workshop. This department had a workforce of 100 to 150 men per shift. (2) The building was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, and approaching it was strictly forbidden.

3. The plant produced inert bombs amounting to between 200 and 300 per shift in September 1948 [] and 500 per shift in June 1948 [] to a third of the past output. The scrap came to the salvage dump where this source operated a crushing hammer. Every three or four days [] observed truck shipments of 50 crates, each with one bomb, leaving the plant. Most of the output was shipped by rail.

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4. The plant produced two sizes of bomb casings, one was 100 cm long and 75 cm in diameter and the other was 100 to 120 cm long and 30 to 40 cm in diameter. The casing of the smaller bomb was about 30 mm thick. [] reported a base opening about 20 cm in diameter at the side of the bomb. The bombs had four riveted stabilizers without guide band. (3) [] observed a third size casing, about 330 cm long and 120 cm in diameter. (4) None of [] had observed the actual production of bombs of this type. They believed that this type was manufactured in the foundry. The plant also produced machine parts.

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5. The plant employed 100 to 120 PW's and 1,800 to 2,000 laborers of whom 20 percent were women. Work was done in two day shifts with the same number of workers and one night shift with comparatively few workers. The plant's civilian management was frequently inspected by air force officers.
6. The plant was surrounded by a wooden fence with guard towers. Civilian plant police guarded the plant, and soldiers were stationed at the main guardhouse. No air raid shelters were observed.

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[] Comments.

- (1) See Annex for sketches of the location and layout of this plant. From the vague location data it cannot be concluded in which of the former machine plants the ammunition factory was installed. According to a German mosaic of Moscow, it might be the Moscow-Southeast Machine Factory, [] It is believed that the plant as given the number 48 only recently. This would be proof that the Avtosteklo Plant No 48 was also given another number.
- (2) It is assumed that the secret workshop produced fuse parts for mechanical nose and tail fuses.
- (3) These dimensions lead to the conclusion that these casings were for bombs of the FAD-500 and FAD-250 types. The casings of these bombs are welded steel casings. The diameters reported by the PW's seem to be overestimated.
- (4) It is believed that the size of this type bomb was concluded from the dimensions of the crates. The bomb might have a weight of 1,000 kg.

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Annex: Layout Sketch of Moscow Bomb Factory No. 48 with Legend

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